

Amendments to the Claims

1 - 23 (Cancelled)

24. (Withdrawn) Safety apparatus, comprising:

a base adapted to fit onto the body of an intravenous device having one end from which a needle extends and an other end to which a tubing is connected; and

a housing hingedly attached to said base, said housing being pivotable to a position in substantial alignment along the longitudinal axis of said base so as to envelop said needle.

25. (Withdrawn) Safety apparatus of claim 24, wherein said base is configured to have an interior circumference surface that comes into intimate contact with a substantial portion of the outer circumference surface of said body.

26. (Withdrawn) Safety apparatus of claim 25, wherein said interior circumference surface of said base is coated with an adhesive means so that said base is bonded to said body of said intravenous device once said base comes into intimate contact with the outer circumference surface of said body.

27. (Withdrawn) Safety apparatus of claim 24, further comprising:

locking means integrated to said housing for fixedly retaining said needle within said housing once said needle is enveloped by said housing.

28. (Withdrawn) Safety apparatus of claim 27, wherein said locking means comprises a hook that snaps over and retains said needle within said housing when said housing is pivoted substantially to said alignment position.

29. (Withdrawn) Safety apparatus of claim 27, wherein said locking means comprises at least one pair of fingers coacting to prevent said needle from being removed from said housing once said housing is pivoted to envelop said needle.

30. (Withdrawn) Safety apparatus of claim 27, wherein said base includes at least one locking means and said housing includes at least an other locking means; and wherein said one and other locking means coact with each other for fixedly retaining said housing relative to said base when said housing is pivoted to envelop said needle.

31. (Withdrawn) Safety apparatus of claim 24, wherein said base comprises at least one pair of arms for embracing said body to thereby firmly secure said base to said body of said intravenous device.

32. (Withdrawn) Safety apparatus of claim 24, wherein said base comprises a tubular portion that slidably fits over an end portion of said body of said intravenous device.

33. (Withdrawn) Safety apparatus of claim 32, wherein said base comprises a pair of arms extending from the end of said base remote from said tubular portion, said pair of arms snappingly fitted over an other portion of said body after said tubular portion is fully mated to said end portion of said body of said intravenous device.

34. (Withdrawn) Safety apparatus to be used with an intravenous infusion device to prevent a contaminated needle of said infusion device from being exposed to the environment, comprising:

a base adapted to be matingly fitted to the body of said infusion device whereto said needle is attached, said base being configured to have an interior

circumference surface that comes into intimate contact with a substantial portion of the outer circumference surface of said body when said base is fitted to said body;

a housing hingedly attached to said base, said housing being pivotable to a position in substantial alignment along the longitudinal axis of said base for enveloping said needle; and

locking means integrated to said housing for fixedly retaining said needle within said housing once said needle is enveloped by said housing.

35. (Withdrawn) Safety apparatus of claim 34, wherein said base having at least one pair of arms that firmly embraces a portion of said body when said base is fitted to said body.

36. (Withdrawn) Safety apparatus of claim 34, wherein said locking means comprises a hook that retains said needle within said housing once said housing is pivoted substantially to said alignment position.

37. (Withdrawn) Safety apparatus of claim 34, wherein said base comprises a tubular portion that slidably fits over an end portion of said body of said infusion device.

38. (Withdrawn) Safety apparatus of claim 34, wherein said interior circumference surface of said base is coated with an adhesive means for bonding said base to said body of said device when said base is fitted to said body.

39. (Currently amended) An intravenous device, comprising:

a body having a through passage connecting its one end to its other end, a needle extending from said one end and a flexible tubing connected to said other end for establishing a fluid communication path between said needle and said tubing

through said body, whereby with said needle inserted to a patient intravenous infusion to or withdrawal of fluid from said patient may be effected; and

a housing molded to and integrally extending from said one end of said body, said housing being pivotable to a position in substantial alignment along the longitudinal axis of said body so as to envelop said needle.

40. (Original) Intravenous device of claim 39, further comprising:

locking means integrated to said housing for fixedly retaining said needle within said housing once said needle is enveloped by said housing.

41. (Original) Intravenous device of claim 40, wherein said locking means comprises a hook that snaps over and retains said needle within said housing when said housing is pivoted substantially to said alignment position.

42. (Original) Intravenous device of claim 40, wherein said locking means comprises at least one pair of fingers coacting to prevent said needle from being removed from said housing once said housing is pivoted to envelop said needle.

43. (Original) Intravenous device of claim 40, wherein said one end of said body includes at least one locking means and said housing includes at least an other locking means; and

wherein said one and other locking means coact with each other for fixedly retaining said housing relative to said body when said housing is pivoted to envelop said needle.

44. (Currently amended) ~~A one piece safety~~ Safety intravenous assembly that prevents a contaminated needle that is a part thereof from being exposed to the environment, comprising:

a body having a one end and and other end, a through passage extending from said one end to said other end, said needle extending from said one end and a flexible tube through which fluid passes is connected to said other end so that a fluid passage is established between said tube and said needle, said body being formed from a mold;

a housing further formed from said mold so as to be integrally attached to said body, said housing being pivotable to a position in substantial alignment along the longitudinal axis of said body for enveloping said needle.

45. (Previously presented) Safety intravenous assembly of claim 44, further comprising:

locking means integrated to said housing for fixedly retaining said needle within said housing once said needle is enveloped by said housing.

46. (Previously presented) Safety intravenous assembly of claim 45, wherein said locking means comprises a hook that retains said needle within said housing once said housing is pivoted substantially to said alignment position.

47. (Previously presented) Safety intravenous assembly of claim 44, further comprising:

first locking means integrated to said end of said body; and

second locking means integrated to said housing;

wherein said first and second locking means coact with each other to fixedly hold said housing relative to said body when said housing is pivoted to said alignment position.

48. (Currently amended) An intravenous device, comprising:

a winged body having a through passage connecting its one end to its other end, a needle extending from said one end and a flexible tubing connected to said other end for establishing a fluid communication path between said tubing and said needle so that when said needle is inserted to a patient intravenous infusion to or withdrawal of fluid from said patient may be effected; and

a housing integrally molded to and extending from said one end of said body, said housing being pivotable to a position in substantial alignment along the longitudinal axis of said body to envelop said needle.

49. (Previously presented) Intravenous device of claim 48, further comprising:
locking means integrated to said housing for fixedly retaining said needle within said housing once said needle is enveloped by said housing.

50. (Previously presented) Intravenous device of claim 49, wherein said locking means comprises a hook that snaps over and retains said needle within said housing when said housing is pivoted substantially to said alignment position.

51. (Previously presented) Intravenous device of claim 49, wherein said locking means comprises at least one pair of fingers coacting to prevent said needle from being removed from said housing once said housing is pivoted to envelop said needle.

52. (Previously presented) Intravenous device of claim 49, wherein said one end of said body includes at least one locking means and said housing includes at least an other locking means; and

wherein said one and other locking means coact with each other for fixedly retaining said housing relative to said body when said housing is pivoted to envelop said needle.